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Christon
DCI file

23 July 1961

Dear Dick:

I don't generally bother you about matters such as the enclosure to this letter but I admit a bit of analysance at what Mr. Agronally had to say. Needless to say, we had nothing whatever to do with the "Merald Tribune" article which I also enclose, and consider it highly regrettable that the "Tribune" should have published this misleading and indiscreet report, but these days one has to take things as they come. But why of all places should this come from Jerusalem, hardly the place of origin of good intelligence on this particular subject.

Sincerely,

SIGNED A. A. D

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Enclosures (2)

Col. Grogan: abk (19July61) Ltr. to Gen. Sarnoff not to be sent. AWD: JI: mfb (rewrite 7/23/61)

Distribution:

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- DCI w/cy enc. via reading

- 1 ER w/cy enclosures
- 1 DDCI
- 2 Col. Grogan

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WRC-NBC Radio Washington

July 11, 1961

News in Depth

ON THE C. I. A.

MARTIN AGRONSKY: "A report on a piece of a brilliant stupidity. That story in a minute..."

"It's kind of reassuring for an American abroad to see how intelligently and secretly his government's intelligence service functions in these critical times. I see by a week old Washington dispatch that our extremely efficient super-secret intelligence agency is in the process of pulling off another great coup. This front page story reports that large numbers of C. I. A. agents are being withdrawn now from American embassies overseas. It says 'quietly' -- this, of course, in the tradition of impenetrable secrecy with which the C. I. A. conducts all its operations.

"Demonstrating further the inviolability of the secrecy tradition, the report goes on to explain that up to now, C.I. A. agents have enjoyed diplomatic cover. This being the cloak and dagger euphemism for agents operating under the guise of embassy personnel. No one need be concerned though, that our nation is to be deprived of the invaluable protection of our discreet undercover agents abroad just because they'll no longer pose as bonafide members of our diplomatic service.

"The far-seeing C. I. A. directors had another cover prepared for their boys quicker than you can say U-2 incident or Cuba. Informed Washington circles are quoted as saying presumably more will now be posing as American businessmen, and, it's explained, in the dirty tricks trade this is known as commercial cover.

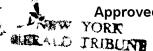
"Really, it's difficult to overestimate the amount of sheer genius that must have gone into the C. I. A. decision to transfer from the members of our country's diplomatic service to our businessmen abroad the opprobrium that attaches to espionage.

"The incredible public admission that in every U.S. embassy there were those whose business was espionage has already provided all foreigners with legitimate license to regard any American diplomat with mistrust. Now, the same kind of damage can be done to the entire community of American businessmen abroad. In the future, no matter how legitimate the activities that American businessman may be engaged in abroad, he automatically will be

regarded as at least a potential if not a working spy. This should be immeasurably helpful in his competition for foreign business. Obviously foreign governments and businessmen will prefer to deal with an American who may be engaged in espionage than with a competitor of different nationality who can't lay claim to being anything more remantic than a businessman.

"This particular C. I. A. tour de force doesn't begin, of course, to compare in scope nor significance to two of the agency's past triumphs in skillful and discreet espionage. The brilliance of the C. I. A. role in the U-2 overflights of the Soviet Union over a year ago set a standard that was thought at that time to be impossible to surpass. But, just a couple of months ago, the C. I. A. in masterminding the abortive invasion of Cuba, demonstrated how impossible it is to overestimate its ineptitude. This latest venture in internal reorganization shows the C. I. A. has not lost its touch.

"This is Martin Agronsky, NBC News, in Jerusalem."



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The close and the posing as American business men. In the "dirty news leaks about the intelligence survey.

While the Taylor to study what might dent's order was first reported yesterday by The Chicago Sun-Times.

Probe Not Confined
The survey on Berlin planning appresentative" in the White House, reported orally to the Chief Executive—presumably a precaution to avoid said the F. B. I probe was not confined to "Newsweek" Today in Hyannis Port, asso-times the sules of "sommercial cover."

While the Taylor report is clear to study what might the method to end the method to make a study to the chief cover will have to find whether the method the method to the method the method to the chief and the method the method to the chief middle the method to the method to the method to the method to the method the method to the method the method to the method to the method to the method the method the method the method to the method the me

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While the Taylor report is The Keennedy administrasuper-secret, it can be stated Hatcher said this did not mean that two broad changes in the those was a general investigation of news leaks.

L. A. agents, even cral effort to change the C. I. A. combination are at
Continued on page 13, column 5.

First is a proposal to merge the Intelligence and Research Division of the State Department with the C. I. A. intelligence-gathering functions information.

The new agency would be related to the State Department much as in the case of the U.S. Information Agency.

The second proposal would be to take away from the C. I. A. all operational functions, such as its organization of the invasion of Cuba by anti-Castro exiles. One criticism of the C. I. A. has been that intelligence gathering and covert operations should not be conducted by the same agency.

The problem is where to put the operational arm of the C. I. A. if it removed from the agency. One solution would be to assign it to the Pentagon, but there is strong Congressional pressure against this.

In making his decision on these matters, the President is also expected to be guided by the findings of Dr. James R. Killian jr., who was named by Mr. Kennedy to head a permanent board charged with checking up on the C. I. A. and other American intelligence activities.

Not all the Admir Clation's lintelligence activities these days are directed at the Sovie; Union. The White House confirmed vesterday that the Presidens, in an extraordinaty move, had ordered the F E. I to invest once the cleaker U. S. contragency plans for Berlin to the press. The President's order was first reported yesterday by The Chicago Sun-

Today in Hyannis Port, asso-ciate press secretary Andrew T

"This Berlin is the only incident under investigation, he said. "My understanding is that it is confined to what has been termed wilful passing of secret information to persons not authorized to have that